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Dedication Ceremony for Leitzel Center to be Held April 30

By [Sharon Keeler](#)
UNH News Bureau
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April 22, 2003

DURHAM, N.H. - The University of New Hampshire will hold a dedication ceremony for the new Joan and James Leitzel Center for Mathematics, Science, and Engineering Education Wednesday, April 30. The ceremony begins at 2 p.m. in Johnson Theater, followed by a panel discussion featuring experts in the field.

A reception and presentation of work by UNH students, professors and teaching interns will proceed in Morse Hall Atrium from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The event is open to the public.

The keynote speaker will be Rita Colwell, director of the National Science Foundation. Her talk is titled, "Radiant Equations for Learning and Leadership in the 21st Century."

Colwell has spearheaded NSF's support of fundamental research in science, engineering, and education, including K-12 science and mathematics education. She has authored or co-authored more than 16 books and produced the award-winning documentary film *Invisible Seas*. A former president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Colwell is a professor of microbiology and biotechnology on leave from the University of Maryland.

Speakers at the dedication ceremony will include Ann Weaver Hart, UNH President; Karen Graham, director of the Joan and James Leitzel Center for Mathematics, Science, and Engineering Education; and Joan Leitzel, UNH President Emerita.

The panel discussion will be moderated by Allison McNair, Host of NHPTV's "Outlook." Panelists include Berrien Moore, III, director and professor, UNH Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans, and Space; Otis Sproul, dean emeritus, UNH College of Engineering and Physical Sciences; Joan Ferrini-Mundy, associate dean for science and math education, professor of mathematics and teacher education, Michigan State University; and Nicholas Donohue, N.H. commissioner of education and trustee, University System of New

Hampshire.

The Leitzel Center will be dedicated to improving education in mathematics, science and engineering at all levels from kindergarten through college. The center will engage the university's working scientists, mathematicians and engineers as well as educators in those fields in its mission to enhance education in the state and beyond.

Established with a \$2 million gift from the late Leslie Hubbard, UNH Class of 1927, the center is named in honor of recently retired UNH President Joan Leitzel, and her late husband, James Leitzel, a renowned scholar and UNH professor of mathematics.

Located in Parson's Hall, the multidisciplinary center will involve faculty members from three of the university's colleges: the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, the College of Life Science and Agriculture and the College of Liberal Arts.

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